



# PEANUT BUTTER AND PUCCINI

Go behind the scenes with the Des Moines Metro Opera. **Page 1B**

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**Pull-Out Inside!**

# THE Record Herald And Indianola Tribune

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# Digital age alters look of learning

## Classrooms will evolve as teachers experiment with technology

By Paige Godden  
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*This is the second of a three-part series about local schools implementing 1:1 technology initiatives.*

Even though three school districts in Warren County are preparing for roll-outs of 2,300 computers, officials in Indianola say students shouldn't expect drastic changes in classroom environments

right away.

Indianola Technology Director Ray Coffey and incoming Principal Craig Calhoun said they're not expecting every classroom to be fully immersed in technology from day one and that it's a process that will take time.

The result of a digital learning environment will hopefully be classrooms with more engaged students, easier ways to provide supplemental instruction and

students who have access to unlimited information and know how to apply that information to their lives.

Coffey said there are different levels of learning and cognitive abilities and the lowest level of learning is knowledge, or memorization.

"People who do well with games like Trivial Pursuit — a lot of people are impressed with that and there's nothing wrong with knowledge but it's important

to be able to use and apply information rather than just having it," Coffey said.

Calhoun said students having access to information and being able to utilize it appropriately is a new way of learning.

Teachers will use some new techniques in classrooms to help accomplish that new style of learning.

Teachers in schools with longer standing digital initiatives have used the flipped classroom approach.

In a flipped classroom, teachers cre-

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# Blake named to hall of fame

The Indianola standout honored for high school athletic achievements.

Casey Blake, one of the top high school athletes in Iowa history from Indianola High School, is among 12 individuals who will be inducted in the National Federation of State High School Associations National High School Hall of Fame July 2 at the Boston Marriott Copley Place in Boston, Mass.

The 32nd Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be the closing event of the 95th annual NFHS Summer Meeting.

Blake was a four-sport standout at Indianola High School in Iowa in the early 1990s and was named as one of the 10 best high school athletes in Iowa history. What makes Blake's four-sport feat even more remarkable is that it was accomplished at a Class 4-A school — the largest division of schools in Iowa.

Blake played quarterback on the football team, and he led his team to the state playoffs twice and was named all-state both years. He was the leading scorer on the basketball team, and

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Casey Blake will be inducted in the National High School Hall of Fame on July 2 in Boston, Mass. US PRESSWIRE



Collin Arndt, Nicholas Arndt and Kael Christensen, along with supervisor Paula Gray-Dietz, look over the work they accomplished on a Lego model of an amusement park during a weeklong day camp at Indianola City Hall. MICHAEL ROLANDS/RECORD-HERALD PHOTOS

# BUILDING BLOCKS of creativity

## Summer fun boosts learning

By Paige Godden  
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An entire theme park was on display inside Indianola City Hall last week.

A Ferris wheel reached high in the sky, a merry-go-round spun in fast circles and a giant swing carried its passengers upside down.

There were even trees, a ticket booth and a giant American flag.

The park, labeled SL, which stood for either Super Land or Silly Land, depending on who you asked, was the perfect size for the little Lego people that inhabited it.

Soren Christensen, 9, of Indianola said he helped make the tilt-a-whirl for the park.

He explained that it was hard to

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Lillie Kruse works on part of a Lego amusement park during a day camp June 19 at Indianola City Hall.

# 'Green' grid replaces cement

Carlisle business installs new product

By Paige Godden  
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A business owner in Carlisle is taking an innovative approach to saving money by reducing the amount of runoff draining from his property.

Jim Widmann, the owner of Freedom Storage, is installing the Pella Grid System, an eco-friendly alternative to cement.

David Fegley, a general contractor and owner of Park Avenue in Des Moines who helped install the system, said the idea came from the city.

"The Mayor of Carlisle (Ruth Randleman) asked us to," Fegley said. "The city is into doing things that are permeable, biodegradable."

He said to his knowledge it's the first time the grid system has been used in Iowa.

The grid uses 1 foot by 1 foot pavers that are made from recycled plastic and rubber. The pavers are made up of black cylinders that are attached together to form a square. The squares interlock to form an even surface area.

Once the pavers are even, they're filled with pea rock.

"With a hard surface, such as concrete or asphalt, storm water cannot be absorbed into the Earth," according to a brochure made by the creators of the Pella Grid System. "Instead, it travels over these hard surfaces, as with parking lots and driveways, collecting all sorts of undesirable pollutants such as oil, grease, chemicals, metals, and bacteria along the way."

According to the brochure, those pollutants then discharge into municipal storm-drain systems, rivers, lakes and oceans. The system also helps keep

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**SPORTS**  
Martensdale - St Marys hosts softball tournament  
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